I

NEW RADNOR RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

RADNORSHIRE

JOINT ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AND OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1972

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

(including Parish they represent)

AND

CHIEF OFFICERS

D.T. Evans (Chairman) - NEW RADNOR

I. Lloyd (Vice-Chairman) - NEWCHURCH

A.L. Price	-	COLVA (Deceased).	V.T. Jones	-	KINNERTON
J.T. Edwards	-	EDNOL	R. Davies	-	LLANFIHANGEL
J.H. Evans	-	EVENJOBB	J.E. Hughes	-	LLANDEGLEY
I.J. Lloyd	-	GLADESTRY	S.K. Williams	-	MICHAELCHURCH
Mrs. I. Davies	-	GLASCWM	I.J. Hughes	-	OLD RADNOR
B.D.R. Ball	-	HARPTON	E.L. Mills	-	TREWERN

P.S. Hughes - WALTON

Clerk and Chief Financial Officer - G. Richards, B.A.

Medical Officer of Health - Dr. R.H. Jobson, M.B.,Ch.B.

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector - L. Allen, M.A.P.H.I.

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

To the Chairman and Members of the New Radnor Rural District Council,

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report for the year 1972 together with the Report of your Public Health Inspector.

I would like to thank Mr. Allen for his help and cooperation during the year.

Richard H. Jobson, M.B., Ch.B.,
Medical Officer of Health.

The Laurels,
New Radnor.

STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	51,892
Estimated population	1,730
Number of houses	659
Rateable Value (as at 1.4.72)	£36,723
Sum represented by a 1p rate	£287.30

VITAL STATISTICS

	Total	Male	Female
(a) Live Births (legitimate)	17	9	8
" " (illegitimate)	-	-	-
	17	9	8
Still Births (legitimate)	NIL	NIL	NIL
" " (illegitimate)	NIL	NIL	NIL

(b) Infant Mortality

(i) Death of infants under 1 year - NIL
(ii) " " " " 4 weeks - NIL
(iii) " " " " 1 week - NIL

(c) Causes of death		Total	Male	Female
B 19 (3)	Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	1	1	-
B 19 (6)	" " - Lung, Bronchus	1	1	-
B 19 (8)	" " - Uterus	1	-	1
B 19 (11)	Other Malignant Neoplasms	1	-	1
B 28	Ischaemic Heart Disease	5	4	1
B 30	Cerebrovascular Disease	3	3	-
B 33 (1)	Bronchitis and Emphysema	1	-	1
B 34	Peptic Ulcer	1	1	-
B 45	Symptoms and ill defined conditions	1	-	1
	DEATHS - ALL AGES	15	10	5

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The district has remained comparatively free from infectious and other diseases during the year under review.

TUBERCULOSIS

The County Medical Officer deals with all aspects of this disease.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946

The County Council is the responsible Authority for the execution of this Act.

Laboratory Facilities - These are provided by the Public Health Laboratory at Hereford and the Public Analyst's Laboratory at Carmarthen.

To the Chairman and Members of the New Radnor Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my part of the Joint Annual Report for 1972.

With the advent of reorganisation, and the increased work that it has entailed for the latter half of this year under review, my penultimate annual report to you tends to reflect my own views on the future of this area.

It is felt that the close personal contact that has always been maintained between officials of small local authorities such as ours, and the general public, will be lost. In its place the larger authorities envisaged should provide a better specialised service to the public, even though they are more remote. It must be borne in mind that not only existing district and county councils are being reorganised, but also the National Health Service (affecting Medical Officers of Health) and the River/Water Boards (affecting sewerage and sewage disposal). The new Community Councils replacing parish councils should be active and make their presence known to those in "higher places".

L. Allen, M.A.P.H.I.

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector.

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

WATER SUPPLIES

Quality - Below are the results of bacteriological sampling of water supplies throughout the district:-

SUPPLY	TREATMENT	NO. OF SAMPLES		
		taken	satisfactory	unsatisfactory
New Radnor & district	Filtration & Chlorination	13	13	-
Llandegley	"	1	1	-
Newchurch	"	3	2	1
Franksbridge	"	1	1	-
Gladestry	Chlorination	5	4	1
Evenjobb	"	4	4	-
Private Supplies	NIL	2	-	2
TOTALS		29	25	4

Both of the adverse samples on mains supplies resulted from a breakdown in chlorinating mechanism.

Quantity - Mains water schemes installed in the area have provided an adequate supply of water and have been extended to outlying parishes. Areas still in need of a new/improved supply of wholesome water are Glasowm village, Ednol and Llanfihangel-nant-Melan.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

New Radnor - Satisfactory progress has been made on the drainage scheme in this village. The treatment works came into commission before the end of the year.

Old Radnor and Llandegley - These two small plants continue to function satisfactorily.

Gladestry, Evenjobb, Walton and Penybont - Further private development is envisaged in these villages and consideration will have to be given to the provision of sewerage and sewage treatment for these areas in the future.

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2016 with funding from
Wellcome Library

https://archive.org/details/b28865790

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Refuse Collection - The collection of household refuse continues to be carried out by contract. The contractor has provided a proper covered-in vehicle. Collection is twice monthly throughout the district. Some isolated properties do not make full use of this service but other properties in village areas, and public houses, could do with an increased collection service.

Refuse Disposal - Three refuse tips are in use, where semi-controlled tipping is carried out. Tipping at Neythel will be discontinued after this next year. It is estimated that the tips at Llandegley and Kinnerton could satisfy the needs of the Council for the next 5 years. It must be noted that the bulk of refuse is increasing every year and this could tend to shorten the life of these tips.

General observations - With the formation of the new district of Radnor, alternative means of disposal of refuse should be seriously considered. A central disposal area with some pre-treatment of refuse is envisaged e.g. incineration or pulverization, prior to disposal for land fill. Refuse tips, no matter how well controlled, can always be an eyesore while in use, and create offence to the public, especially in the neighbourhood where they are sited. Small tipping sites should be done away with. The larger the disposal point the better the control over same.

HOUSING

Housing Survey - Below is a revised list showing present standard of fitness of houses in the district:-

No. of houses	Categories		
	1 & 2	3	4 & 5
659	420	199	40

Private Building - The erection of 8 new houses was completed during the year. There were 6 houses under construction at the end of the year.

Council houses - There are 46 Council owned houses in the district - all three bedroom dwellings. These have all been improved to the "Standard grant" standard of fitness. Consideration should be given to bringing all of these dwellings up to Parker Morris Standard. Some of these Council houses are under occupied.

Future Proposals

Dolyhir - The Council have purchased a terraced row of ten dwellings, six of which are unoccupied. It is their intention to convert this row into 8 improved dwellings (two - 4 bedroom units and 6 - 2 bedroom units).

Gladestry - Site for two - two bedroom bungalows. Scheme has been prepared for submission to Welsh Office.

New Radnor - The Council are endeavouring to obtain land in this village for old peoples dwellings, but up to the present time they have not been successful. When smaller dwellings are available consideration should be given to re-housing tenants from under-occupied dwellings.

Improvement Grants - Below are figures comparing number of grants approved with those for previous years:-

Discretionary

Year	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
No. of applications approved	2	3	9	11	20
Amount of grant approved	£800	£1210	£5599	£12760	£26542

HOUSING - CONTINUED

Improvement Grants - continued

Standard

Year	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
No. of applications approved	10	16	7	8	20

1968 - This figure includes 4 Council houses.

1969 - This figure includes 7 Council houses.

1972 - This figure includes 2 Council houses.

The 75% grants have certainly been a successful inducement to people to modernise properties, especially in the more isolated areas, as can be seen from the above figures.

Whilst the Council's policy of giving maximum discretionary grants to applicants is to be heartily agreed with, it is to be regretted that so many of the improved houses are only used as holiday and weekend homes. I would advocate that a policy to ensure as far as possible, that all improved houses are permanently occupied, should be supported.

CARAVAN SITES

General - At the present time there are four holiday caravan sites in the area catering for 12 caravans each. In addition there are 15 individual caravan sites, 5 of which are occupied as permanent homes.

"Hippies" - Such persons have been occupying dwellings in the district for the past few years, sometimes unobstrusively, but at other times making their presence known. Last year about eight caravans stopped in the area on two separate sites, causing annoyance in the locality. Both these sites were on private ground. The owner and/or occupier of ground concerned failed to obtain planning permission for these sites and enforcement action is being taken to have caravans removed.

RODENT CONTROL

The Council continue to make free poison bait available for treatment to domestic premises and advice is given as to its use. Farm premises and other businesses carry out treatments directly themselves or through private operators by Contract Whilst there appears to be no undue problem in the area, a survey of farms in the district is long overdue.

FOOD PREMISES AND FOOD INSPECTION

Food Premises - These premises are summarised as follows:-

Cafe	-	1
Butchers Shop	-	1
Bakery	-	1
Grocery Stores	-	6
Public Houses	-	8
School Canteens	-	4
TOTAL		21

Complete improvement, restoration and extension to two of the public houses was carried out during the year. Further work has just been commenced on another similar establishment. All of the public houses have provision for catering.

Three schools in the area closed down i.e. New Radnor, Evenjobb and Old Radnor resulting in the closure of canteens at these schools. One new school and canteen was opened in New Radnor to cater for these areas.

FOOD PREMISES AND FOOD INSPECTION - CONTINUED

Food and Drugs Act 1955
Section 16

No. of premises registered for the storage and sale of ice cream	-	11
No. of premises registered for the preparation and sale of sausages	-	1
TOTAL		12

These premises are visited on an average twice a year either directly or in conjunction with visits for other purposes.

Meat Inspection - There are no licensed slaughterhouses in the district.

Milk Supply - All premises in the district are occupied by producer/wholesalers and come under the supervision of the Ministry of Agriculture.

The Food Hygiene (Markets Stalls & Delivery vehicles) Regulations 1966

Mobile food vans - Inspections of vans operating in the area have been made, but to date these have been found to be satisfactory.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

Premises	No. on register	No. of inspections
Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4, & 6 are to be enforced by L.A.	5	3
Factories not included above in which section 7 is enforced by L.A.	10	8
Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	2
TOTAL	17	13

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

Registration and General Inspections

Type of workplace	No. of premises Registered	No. of persons employed		No. of Inspections
		Male	Female	
Offices	1	2	-	-
Retail Shops	3	2	3	3
Catering establishments open to public	4	5	2	4
TOTALS	8	9	5	7

Four of the public houses came under new management resulting in re-registration of these properties.

AGRICULTURE (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT 1956

Inspections to various premises was carried out in conjunction with visits to premises on other business. Where farmhouse dwellings are being modernised care is taken to ensure that a downstairs toilet and wash-hand basin are provided and available for the use of any existing or future employees.